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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/826,571 04/05/01 BAKKER

A PHAS0.003

EXAMINER

MM41/0919

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CHOE, H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2817

DATE MAILED:

09/19/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/826,571

Applicant(s)
Bakker

Examiner
H nry Cho

Art Unit
2817

-- Th MAILING DATE f this communication appears on the cov r sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Apr 5, 2001

2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.

2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the applica

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from considera

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 8-11 is/are rejected.

7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-7 and 12-14 is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirem

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

20) ☐ Other:

Art Unit:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 2 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Barbier et al (Fig. 5b).

Regarding claims 1, 8, 9, Barbier et al (Fig. 5b) discloses an amplifier circuit comprising an amplifier (G) which produces a DC offset and noise having an input (E1 and E2) for receiving an input signal and an output (S1 and S2) for delivering an output signal, means (CHP1 and CHP2) for reducing the DC offset and the noise produced by the amplifier (G), and feedback means (H) which further reduces the DC offset produced by the amplifier (G).

Regarding claims 2, 10, wherein the means (CHP1 and CHP2) for reducing the DC-offset and the noise produced by the amplifier (G) includes an input chopper (CHP1) which is arranged in cascade between the input (E1 and E2) of the circuit and the input (input of G) of the amplifier (G) and an output chopper (CHP2) which is synchronized with the input chopper (CHP1) and is arranged in cascade between the output (output of G) of the amplifier (G) and the output (S1 and S2) of the circuit .

Art Unit:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barbier et al (Fig. 5b).

Barbier et al (Fig. 5b) discloses all the limitations in the claims except for that the input chopper and the output chopper are operative as high frequency choppers. It would have been obvious to have set the both choppers to such high frequencies because setting to a any desired frequency depends only on component values selected as a matter of design choice.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 4-7 and 12-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Art Unit:

Reasons for Allowance

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Regarding claims 4, 6 and 12, the closest prior art of record, Barbier et al (Fig. 5b) discloses all the limitations in the claims except for that the switching means (SW in Fig. 3 of drawing) which short circuits the input signal under control of a start-up signal.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

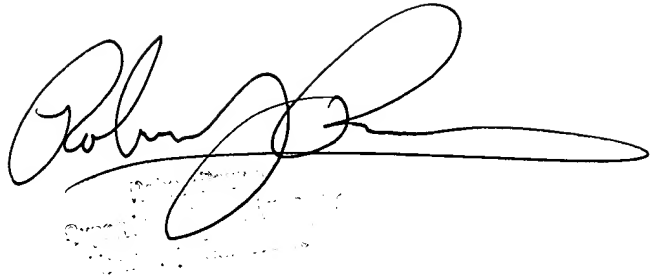
Patent numbers (5,206,602; 4,939,516; 5,600,275; 5,663,680) are the amplifiers with the choppers.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Henry Choe whose telephone number is (703) 305-0576.

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HC#418

September 18, 2001